

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ Cancel claims 12, 15, 24-26, 33, 34, and 40 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, amend the following pending claims by deleting that language which is enclosed within brackets (“[]”) and by inserting that language which is underlined (“ ”).

A1

1 1. (Once Amended) A system for automatically [monitoring and] reporting upon travel
2 status of vehicles in response to [an] activation requests by users at remote locations, comprising:
3 a data manager configured to receive an activation request, said activation request including
4 a vehicle indicator and a location indicator, said data manager further configured to automatically
5 correlate said vehicle indicator with a vehicle and said location indicator with a location along a
6 route of travel of said vehicle, to automatically identify a proximity based on said location indicator,
7 to track travel of said vehicle based on travel data received from said vehicle, said travel data
8 identifying said vehicle, and to automatically transmit a message in response to a determination that
9 said vehicle is within [a predetermined] said identified proximity [of said location]; and
10 a communications interface configured to receive said [vehicle indicator and said location
11 indicator] activation request from a user at a remote location, to automatically transmit said [vehicle
12 indicator and said location indicator] activation request to said data manager, [and] to receive said
13 message from said data manager, and to transmit said message to said user.

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Cont.

1 3. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said identified proximity is defined by
2 time.

1 4. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said identified proximity is defined by
2 distance.

1 5. The system of claim 1, wherein said identified proximity [corresponds with] is
2 defined by a predetermined location along said route of travel.

1 13 10. (Once Amended) The system of claim [1] ¹²42, [further comprising a vehicle manager
2 coupled to said vehicle and] wherein said vehicle manager is configured to transmit said travel data
3 to said data manager] in response to a determination that said vehicle is off schedule, and wherein
4 said data manager, in tracking said vehicle, is configured to assume that said vehicle is on schedule
5 unless said data manager receives said travel data transmitted from said vehicle.

1 10 11. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said data manager further comprises
2 a monitoring mechanism configured to receive said travel data from said vehicle, to compare said
3 travel data with a coordinate value indicating a proximity of said location, and to correlate said
4 travel data with said coordinate value based on said vehicle [value] indicator and said location
5 [value] indicator.

1 14 12. (Once Amended) A system, comprising:
2 a data manager configured to receive a vehicle indicator and a location indicator, to identify
3 a proximity based on said location indicator, to identify a vehicle based on said vehicle indicator, to
4 monitor travel of said vehicle, to analyze travel data indicative of whether said vehicle is within
5 said proximity, to determine whether to transmit a message based on said travel data and said
6 vehicle indicator, [to retrieve location data based on said location indicator, to correlate said
7 location data with travel data based on said vehicle indicator, to compare said location data to said
8 travel data,] and to transmit [a] said message in response to a determination that said vehicle is [a
9 predetermined] within said proximity [from a first location along a route of travel of said vehicle,
10 said location data indicating said first location and said travel data indicating a second location of
11 said vehicle along said route of travel]; and

12 a communications interface configured to receive said vehicle indicator and said location
13 indicator from a user at a remote location, to transmit said vehicle indicator and said location
14 indicator to said data manager, to receive said message from said data manager, and to transmit said
15 message to said user.

1 18. (Once Amended) The system of claim ¹⁴13, wherein said identified proximity is defined
2 by time.

1 19. (Once Amended) The system of claim ¹⁴13, wherein said identified proximity is defined
2 by distance.

1 20. (Once Amended) The system of claim ¹⁴13, wherein said identified proximity
2 corresponds with a predetermined location along said route of travel.

1 21. (Once Amended) The system of claim ¹⁴13, wherein said vehicle is a bus and said [first]
2 location is a bus stop.

1 22. (Once Amended) The system of claim ¹⁴13, wherein said vehicle indicator identifies said
2 vehicle and said location indicator identifies said [first] location.

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23.

(Once Amended) A system for automatically [monitoring] reporting upon travel status of vehicles in response to [an] activation requests by users at remote locations, comprising:
means for receiving an activation request from a user at a remote location, said activation request including a vehicle indicator and a location indicator [from a user at a remote location];
means for identifying a vehicle based on said vehicle indicator;
means for identifying a location based on said location indicator;
means for specifying a proximity based on said location;
means for monitoring travel of said vehicle;
[means for retrieving location data based on said location indicator;
means for comparing said location data to travel data associated with said vehicle;]
means for [determining] analyzing travel data indicative of whether said vehicle is within [a predetermined] said specified proximity [of a location defined in data by said location data];
means for determining whether to transmit a message to said user based on said analyzing
means and said vehicle indicator; and
means for transmitting [a] said message to said user [in response to a determination by] based on said determining means [that said vehicle is within said predetermined proximity of said location].

26

27. (Once Amended) The system of claim ²⁵23, wherein said activation request, further includes contact information and wherein said system further [comprising] comprises:
means for storing said contact information; and
means for retrieving said contact information [associated with said user] in response to [said] a determination by said determining means to transmit said message,; and]
wherein said [means for] transmitting means transmits said message based on said contact information.

3031 (Once Amended) A method for automatically activating vehicle status reporting
within a vehicle tracking system, comprising the steps of:
receiving a vehicle indicator and a location indicator from a user at a remote location;
identifying a vehicle based on said vehicle indicator;
identifying a proximity based on said location indicator;
receiving travel data identifying said vehicle and indicating a location of said vehicle;
monitoring travel of said vehicle based on said travel data;
[retrieving location data based on said location indicator;
comparing said location data to travel data associated with said vehicle;]
determining, based on said monitoring step, whether said vehicle is within [a
predetermined] said proximity [of a location defined in data by said location data]; and
transmitting a message to said user in response to a determination in said determining step
that said vehicle is within said [predetermined] proximity [of said location].

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32. (Once Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein said monitoring step further
[comprising] comprises the step[s] of:
assuming that said vehicle is traveling along a [predetermined proximity from an assumed
location based on an assumed] route at a predetermined rate of travel until said receiving step [for
said vehicle; and
updating said travel data in response to a determination that said vehicle is outside of said
predetermined proximity].

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33. (Once Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein said receiving a vehicle indicator
and a location indicator step includes the step of receiving, from said user, an activation request that
includes said vehicle indicator, said location indicator, and contact information, and wherein said
transmitting step includes the step of [further comprising the steps of:
retrieving contact information associated with said user in response to said determination;
and]
transmitting said message based on said contact information.

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1 3639. (Once Amended) A method for enabling reporting of impending vehicle arrivals,
2 [requesting a vehicle monitoring system to monitor a particular vehicle,] comprising the steps of:
3 receiving a vehicle indicator and a location indicator from a remote user, said vehicle
4 indicator identifying [said] a vehicle and said location indicator indicating a location along a route
5 of travel of said vehicle; [and]
6 identifying a proximity based on said location indicator;
7 monitoring travel of said vehicle as said vehicle travels along said route; and [automatically
8 in response to said vehicle indicator and said location indicator.]
9 transmitting a message to said user, based on said monitoring step, when said vehicle is
10 within said proximity.

[Add the following claims:

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1 41. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein said activation request includes contact
2 information identifying a user communication device associated with said user, and wherein said
3 communications interface is further configured to transmit said message to said user
4 communications device based on said contact information.

Cont A10
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1 42. (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a location sensor coupled to said vehicle and configured to determine a location of said
3 sensor, said location sensor further configured to transmit signals based on locations determined by
4 said location sensor; and
5 a vehicle manager coupled to said location sensor and configured to wirelessly transmit said
6 travel data, said travel data based on said signals transmitted from said location sensor.

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1 ~~43~~. (New) The system of claim ~~13~~, further comprising:

2 a location sensor coupled to said vehicle and configured to determine a location of said
3 sensor, said location sensor further configured to transmit signals based on locations determined by
4 said location sensor; and

5 a vehicle manager coupled to said location sensor and configured to wirelessly transmit said
6 travel data, said travel data based on said signals transmitted from said location sensor.

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1 ~~44~~. (New) The system of claim ~~43~~, wherein said vehicle manager is configured to
2 transmit said travel data in response to a determination that said vehicle is off schedule, and
3 wherein said data manager, in tracking said vehicle, is configured to assume that said vehicle is on
4 schedule unless said data manager receives said travel data transmitted from said vehicle.

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1 ~~45~~. (New) A system for automatically monitoring and reporting upon travel status of
2 vehicles in response to an activation request by users at remote locations, comprising:

3 a data manager configured to receive a vehicle indicator and a location indicator, to
4 automatically correlate said vehicle indicator with a vehicle and said location indicator with a
5 location along a route of travel of said vehicle, and to transmit a message in response to a
6 determination that said vehicle is within a predetermined proximity of said location; and

7 a communications interface configured to receive said vehicle indicator and said location
8 indicator from a user at a remote location, to transmit said vehicle indicator and said location
9 indicator to said data manager, and to receive said message from said data manager and to transmit
10 said message to said user.

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1 ~~46~~. (New) The system of claim ~~45~~, wherein said vehicle indicator and said location
2 indicator are included in an activation request that also includes contact information identifying a
3 remote communication device associated with said user, wherein said communications interface is
4 further configured to transmit said message based on said contact information.

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47. (New) The system of claim 45, further comprising:

a location sensor coupled to said vehicle and configured to determine a location of said sensor, said location sensor further configured to transmit signals based on locations determined by said location sensor; and

a vehicle manager coupled to said location sensor and configured to wirelessly transmit travel data to said data manager, said travel data based on said signals transmitted from said location sensor.

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48. (New) The system of claim 47, wherein said vehicle manager is configured to transmit said travel data to said data manager in response to a determination that said vehicle is off schedule, and wherein said data manager is configured to assume that said vehicle is on schedule unless said data manager receives said travel data.

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49. (New) A system, comprising:

a data manager configured to receive a vehicle indicator and a location indicator, to retrieve location data based on said location indicator, to correlate said location data with travel data based on said vehicle indicator, to compare said location data to said travel data, and to transmit a message in response to a determination that said vehicle is a predetermined proximity from a first location along a route of travel of said vehicle, said location data indicating said first location and said travel data indicating a second location of said vehicle along said route of travel; and

a communications interface configured to receive said vehicle indicator and said location indicator from a user at a remote location, to transmit said vehicle indicator and said location indicator to said data manager, to receive said message from said data manager, and to transmit said message to said user.

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50. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein said vehicle indicator and said location indicator are included in an activation request that also includes contact information identifying a remote communication device associated with said user, wherein said communications interface is further configured to transmit said message based on said contact information.

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51. (New) The system of claim 49, further comprising:

a location sensor coupled to said vehicle and configured to determine a location of said sensor, said location sensor further configured to transmit signals based on locations determined by said location sensor; and

a vehicle manager coupled to said location sensor and configured to wirelessly transmit travel data to said data manager, said travel data based on said signals transmitted from said location sensor.

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52. (New) The system of claim 51, wherein said vehicle manager is configured to transmit said travel data to said data manager in response to a determination that said vehicle is off schedule, and wherein said data manager is configured to assume that said vehicle is on schedule unless said data manager receives said travel data.

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53. (New) A method for automatically activating a vehicle tracking system, comprising the steps of:

receiving a vehicle indicator and a location indicator from a user at a remote location;

identifying a vehicle based on said vehicle indicator;

monitoring travel of said vehicle;

retrieving location data based on said location indicator;

comparing said location data to travel data associated with said vehicle;

determining whether said vehicle is within a predetermined proximity of a location defined in data by said location data; and

transmitting a message to said user in response to a determination in said determining step that said vehicle is within said predetermined proximity of said location.